IN THE CLAIMS

- 1. (currently amended) A method for obtaining geographical zone data for a mobile subscriber unit, the method comprising the steps of:
- A) <u>a geographical layer interface</u> receiving a request from an application for geographical zone data for the mobile subscriber unit, wherein the request includes:

a mobile subscriber identifier that is associated with the mobile subscriber unit; and

a zone type that identifies a type of predetermined geographical area; and

B) returning a reply to the request, wherein the reply includes: a zone identifier that identifies a current geographical area where the mobile subscriber unit is located and the current geographical area has the zone type included in the request;

wherein a zone manager coupled to the geographical layer interface receives the request;

a location manager coupled to the zone manager delivers a location of the mobile subscriber unit as determined by a position determination equipment; and

the zone manager uses the location of the mobile subscriber unit and a database of zone data to determine the zone identifier.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the request further includes:

a switching center identifier that identifies the mobile switching center serving the mobile subscriber unit.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the request is a

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transaction control application protocol message and the reply is a transaction control application protocol message.

- 4. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein the request is received over one of a Internet protocol network and a signaling system seven network and the reply is returned over one of a Internet protocol network and a signaling system seven network.
- 5. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein the request is received via a message defined by one of an ANSI41 and a GSM standard.
- 6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the mobile subscriber unit comprises one of a wireless telephone, personal digital assistant, and computer.
- 7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the mobile subscriber unit is at least one of a voice communications device and a data communications device.
- 8. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the zone type identifies one of a personal zone and a shared zone.
- 9. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the zone type comprises a request to create a zone.
- 10. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the reply includes a text string associated with the zone identifier.



11. (currently amended) A telecommunications network apparatus comprising:

means for receiving a request for geographical zone data for a mobile subscriber unit, wherein the request includes:

a mobile subscriber identifier that is associated with the mobile subscriber unit; and

a zone type that identifies a type of predetermined geographical area;

means for returning a reply to the request, wherein the reply includes: a zone identifier that identifies a current geographical area where the mobile subscriber unit is located and the current geographical area has the zone type included in the request;

a zone manager coupled to the receiving means to receive the request;

a location manager coupled to the zone manager to deliver a location of the mobile subscriber unit as determined by a position determination equipment; and

wherein the zone manager uses the location of the mobile subscriber unit and a database of zone data to determine the zone identifier.

12. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the request further includes:

a switching center identifier that identifies the <u>a</u> mobile switching center serving the mobile subscriber unit.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the request is a transaction control application protocol message and the reply is a transaction control application protocol message.



- 14. (original) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the request is received over one of a Internet protocol network and a signaling system seven network and the reply is returned over one of a Internet protocol network and a signaling system seven network.
- 15. (original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the request is received via a message defined by one of an ANSI41 and a GSM standard.
- 16. (original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the zone type identifies one of a personal zone and a shared zone.
- 17.(original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the zone type comprises a request to create a zone.
- 18. (original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the reply includes a text string associated with the zone identifier.
 - 19. (cancelled).
- 20. (currently amended) <u>A telecommunications network</u> apparatus comprising:
- a geographical layer interface that receives a request for geographical zone data for a mobile subscriber unit, wherein the request includes:
- <u>a mobile subscriber identifier that is associated with the mobile</u> <u>subscriber unit; and</u>
 - a zone type that identifies a type of predetermined geographical

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area;

wherein the geographical layer interface returns a reply to the request, wherein the reply includes: a zone identifier that identifies a current geographical area where the mobile subscriber unit is located and the current geographical area has the zone type included in the request; The apparatus of claim 19 further comprising:

request; The apparatus of claim 19 further comprising:

——a zone manager coupled to the geographical layer interface to receive the request;

——a location manager coupled to the zone manager to deliver a location of the mobile subscriber unit as determined by a position determination equipment; and

——wherein the zone manager uses the location of the mobile subscriber unit and a database of zone data to determine the zone identifier.

